

**Board of Psychology**

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Board Meeting  
January 8, 2021  
Teleconference

**Board Attendance**

**Present    Absent**

Molly Clark, Ph.D., Continuing Education Coordinator	2018- 2023	x	
Steve Ellis, Ph.D., Chair & Civil Commitment Coordinator	2016-2021	x	
Lynwood Wheeler, Ph.D., Recording Secretary	2018-2023	x	
Natalie Gaughf, Ph.D., Credentialing Coordinator	2016-2021	x	
Monica Sutton, Ph.D., Treasurer	2017-2022	x	
Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D., Executive Secretary	2019-2024	x	

**Also Present**

Avery Lee, Esq., Senior Special Assistant to the Attorney General  
Stacie Sharp, Board Administrator

**Call to Order:**

Dr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 11:06 AM and called for amendments to the agenda.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Clark motioned, seconded by Dr. Gaughf, to approve the 12/04/20 minutes with noted corrections. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

**Treasurer Report:**

Dr. Sutton reported that the board’s financial status is good. If we pursue a pin, a comprehensive letter may be submitted in lieu of a hearing. The board will need to find a title that best fits the position and salary.

There was a discussion with regard to presenting jointly with the Autism Board that they become a freestanding board, and not under the psychology board.

**Continuing Education Coordinator Report:**

Dr. Clark reported that renewals have been printed and will be sent out in March. There will also be a random list for auditing CE hours.

Dr. Clark proposed modifying rule 12.6 pertaining to newly licensed psychologists reporting CE hours. Dr. Clark proposed the following wording: If you are licensed 6 months before the CE reporting year, you are not required to report any CE. If you are licensed within a 1 year of the CE reporting year, you must complete 10 hours. If you are licensed more than one year, you are required to report 20 hours.

**Civil Commitment Coordinator Report:**

Dr. Ellis had no report.

**Chair Report:**

Dr. Ellis discussed a virtual meeting he and Ms. Sharp had with ASPPB 12/22/20 pertaining to difficulties with communication. ASPPB acknowledged the problems, stated they were working toward improvements, and Ms. Sharp has already noticed improved communication and has a direct contact now at ASPPB.

**Board Administrator Report:**

Ms. Sharp reported that license renewal notifications are ready to be sent out.

**Executive Session:**

Dr. Clark made the motion to enter into closed determination session to consider the need to enter into executive session. Dr. Sutton seconded the motion to consider the need to enter into executive session. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark moved to consider going into executive session to discuss applications and complaints. Dr. Yazdani seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss applications and complaints. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

**Actions taken during Executive Session:**

Dr. Wheeler reported that following actions took place during Executive Session:

**Complaints:**

Dr. Yazdani recommended an educational letter in case 200502 pertaining to the use of an outdated test kit. This letter has been finalized and sent.

Dr. Yazdani sent an educational letter in case 200903 advising that personal views, political or otherwise, not be discussed as a way of establishing rapport.

Dr. Yazdani reported that case 200904 involved a post-doctoral individual. It was deemed that there was no violation, and Dr. Yazdani recommended this be case be closed.

Dr. Yazdani reported that in case 201005 no violation was found and Dr. Yazdani recommended this case be closed.

Dr. Yazdani reported that case 201206 continues to be under investigation.

Dr. Yazdani reported that an individual with two separate complaints, 20190826 and 20190911, has requested a case hearing pertaining to a lapsed license.

Dr. Clark made a motion to accept the above recommendations made by Dr. Yazdani, and Dr. Gaughf seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

### **Candidate Status/Status of Applications/Complaints:**

Dr. Gaughf recommended the following applicants who successfully passed the oral examination and the jurisprudence examination for licensure: Cecile Irene Morvan, 07242017, never licensed, Whitney Jo Stubbs, 04042020, Colorado, Tanja Seifen, 04292020, never licensed, Alexandria Jade Delozier, 06122020, never licensed, Kristen Lee Condeelis, 06112020, never licensed, Tanya Maricima Nichols, 11032020, Idaho, Jacklyn Nagle Ruhl, 04152020, Louisiana. Dr. Yazdani moved that these candidates be accepted for licensure, and Dr. Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf recommended three applicants for Temporary Practice Certificate: Sehrish Tariq, Illinois Kristin Elizabeth Austin, North Carolina, Tucker D. Johnson, Tennessee, Andrew Bertagnolli, California, Hawaii, and Wyoming (reviewed attestation and Board agreed he was eligible for TPC). Dr. Clark moved to ratify Dr. Gaughf's recommendation and Dr. Yazdani seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf recommended one individual for Oral Examination and Jurisprudence Examination, 10192020 - Licensed in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Kansas and CPQ – as well as a request for Temporary License. Dr. Clark moved that this candidate be approved, and Dr. Sutton seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf also discussed a psychologist's ability to supervise using TPC, as well as the requirements for Senior Psychologist. There was also discussion of a background check report for a candidate, and the board decided that the candidate remained eligible for licensure.

### **Review and Update of Rules and Regulations:**

The board reviewed the changes to the Rules and Regulations.

**Old Business:**

Dr. Gaughf contacted ASPPB pertaining to licensure requirements in other states and received a link to the Psybook. The requirements for licensure in Mississippi in Psybook will be updated as they are inaccurate.

Dr. Ellis discussed a proposed statement from the Department of Education to be included on the license renewal form for psychometrists, which would read as follows:

The undersigned applicant for licensure in the area(s) of psychometrist and/or school psychologist hereby affirms that the aforementioned titles shall *only* be used when they are employed by or under contract with a school district and practicing in school or educational settings" (emphasis added). Explicitly, Mississippi Code Annotated § 73-31-27, paragraph two (2), states, "Individuals certified by the Mississippi State Department of Education may use appropriate titles such as "school psychologist," "certified school psychologist," "educational psychologist" or "psychometrist" *only* when they are employed by or under contract with a school district and practicing in school or educational settings" (emphasis added). Furthermore, your signature serves as confirmation of your understanding that your scope of practice as a psychometrist and/or school psychologist is limited to these settings when holding only a license granted and issued by the Mississippi Department of Education, which does not include work in a private practice type setting, by this statute.

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Signature of Applicant

Dr. Wheeler updated the board with regard to a Bill to introduced during the 2021 legislative session to remove the postdoctoral training requirement from the licensing statute, MS Code of 1972, 73-31, and to the extend the repealer date to 2025. Rep. Missy McGee (District 102-Forrest, Lamar) will author the bill.

**New Business.**

No new buisness.

**Adjourn:**

Dr. Gaughf moved to adjourn the meeting, and this was seconded by Dr. Sutton. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:06 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Lynwood Wheeler, Ph.D., ABPP  
Recording Secretary

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